

Tatar language

The **Tatar language** (татар теле, *tatar tele* or татарча, *tatarça*) is a Turkic language spoken by Tatars mainly located in modern Tatarstan (European Russia), as well as Siberia. It should not be confused with the Crimean Tatar or Siberian Tatar which are closely related but belong to different subgroups of the Kipchak languages.

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Geographic distribution

Tatar	
	татар теле, <i>tatar tele</i> , تاتار تلي
Native to	Russia, other post-Soviet states
Ethnicity	Volga Tatars
Native speakers	5.2 million (2015) ^[1] (may include some L2 speakers)
Language family	<div>Turkic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Common Turkic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kipchak<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kipchak–Bulgar<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tatar</div>
Early form	Old Tatar language
Writing system	Tatar alphabet (Cyrillic, Latin, formerly Arabic)
Official status	
Official language in	<div><div> </div>Russia<ul style="list-style-type: none"><div> </div>Tatarstan</div>
Recognised minority language in	<div><div> </div>Poland^[2]</div>
Regulated by	Institute of Language, Literature and Arts of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan (http://www.ijli.anta.t.ru/language.html)
Language codes	

The Tatar language is spoken in Russia (about 5.3 million people), Ukraine, China, Finland, Turkey, Uzbekistan, the United States of America, Romania, Azerbaijan, Israel, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Lithuania, Latvia and other countries. There are more than 7 million speakers of Tatar in the world.

Tatar is also native for several thousand Maris. Mordva's Qaratay group also speak a variant of Kazan Tatar.

In the 2010 census, 69% of Russian Tatars who responded to the question about language ability claimed a knowledge of the Tatar language.^[4] In Tatarstan, 93% of Tatars and 3.6% of Russians did so. In neighbouring Bashkortostan, 67% of Tatars, 27% of Bashkirs, and 1.3% of Russians did.^[5]

Official status

Tatar, along with Russian, is the official language of the Republic of Tatarstan. The official script of Tatar language is based on the Cyrillic script with some additional letters. The Republic of Tatarstan passed a law in 1999, which came into force in 2001, establishing an official Tatar Latin alphabet. A Russian federal law overrode it in 2002, making Cyrillic the sole official script in Tatarstan since. Unofficially, other scripts are used as well, mostly Latin and Arabic. All official sources in Tatarstan must use Cyrillic on their websites and in publishing. In other cases, where Tatar has no official status, the use of a specific alphabet depends on the preference of the author.

The Tatar language was made a *de facto* official language in Russia in 1917, but only within the Tatar Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic. Tatar is also considered to have been the official language in the short-lived Idel-Ural State, briefly formed during the Russian Civil War.

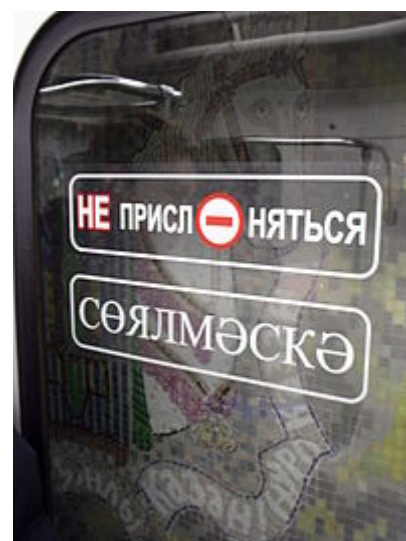
The usage of Tatar declined from during the 20th century. By the 1980s, the study and teaching of Tatar in the public education system was limited to rural schools. However, Tatar-speaking pupils had little chance of entering university because higher education was available in Russian almost exclusively.

As of 2001 Tatar was considered a potentially endangered language while Siberian Tatar received "endangered" and "seriously endangered" statuses, respectively.^[6] Higher education in Tatar can only be found in Tatarstan, and is restricted to the humanities. In other regions Tatar is primarily a spoken language and the number of speakers as well as their proficiency tends to decrease. Tatar is popular as a written language only in Tatar-speaking areas where schools with Tatar language lessons are situated. On the other hand, Tatar is the only language in use in rural districts of Tatarstan.

ISO 639-1	tt (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?iso_639_1=tt)
ISO 639-2	tat (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?code_ID=438)
ISO 639-3	tat
Glottolog	tata1255 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/tata1255) ^[3]
Linguasphere	44-AAB-be



The word *Qazan* – قازان is written in Arabic script in the semblance of a Zilant



Bilingual guide in Kazan Metro

Since 2017, Tatar language classes are no longer mandatory in the schools of Tatarstan.^[7] According to the opponents of this change, it will further endanger the Tatar language and is a violation of the Tatarstan Constitution which stipulates the equality of Russian and Tatar languages in the republic.^{[8][9]}

Dialects of Tatar

There are two main dialects of Tatar:

- Central or Middle (Kazan)
- Western (Mişär or Mishar)

All of these dialects also have subdivisions. Significant contributions to the study of the Tatar language and its dialects, were made by a scientist Gabdulkhay Akhatov, who is considered to be the founder of the modern Tatar dialectological school.

Spoken idioms of Siberian Tatars, which differ significantly from the above two, are often considered as the third dialect group of Tatar by some, but as an independent language on its own by others.

Central or Middle

The Central or Middle dialectal group is spoken in Kazan and most of Tatarstan and is the basis of the standard literary Tatar language.

Mişär

In the Western (Mişär) dialect *ç* is pronounced [t͡ɬ] (southern or Lambir Mişärs) and as [ts] (northern Mişärs or Nizhgars). *C* is pronounced [d͡ʒ]. There are no differences between *v* and *w*, *q* and *k*, *g* and *ğ* in the Mişär dialect. (The Cyrillic alphabet doesn't have special letters for *q*, *ğ* and *w*, so Mişär speakers have no difficulty reading Tatar written in Cyrillic.)

This is the dialect spoken by the Tatar minority of Finland.

Siberian Tatar

Two main isoglosses that characterize Siberian Tatar are *ç* as [ts] and *c* as [j], corresponding to standard [ɬ] and [ʒ]. There are also grammatical differences within the dialect, scattered across Siberia.^[10]

Many linguists claim the origins of Siberian Tatar dialects are actually independent of Volga–Ural Tatar; these dialects are quite remote both from Standard Tatar and from each other, often preventing mutual comprehension. The claim that this language is part of the modern Tatar language is typically supported by linguists in Kazan, Moscow^[11] and by Siberian Tatars linguists^{[12][13][14]} and denounced by some Russian and Tatar^[15] ethnographs.

Over time, some of these dialects were given distinct names and recognized as separate languages (e.g. the Chulym language) after detailed linguistic study. However, the Chulym language was never classified as a dialect of Tatar language. Confusion arose because of the endoethnonym "Tatars" used by the Chulym. The question of classifying the Chulym language as a dialect of the Khakass language was debatable. A brief



A subway sign in Tatar (top) and Russian

linguistic analysis shows that many of these dialects exhibit features which are quite different from the Volga–Ural Tatar varieties, and should be classified as Turkic varieties belonging to several sub-groups of the Turkic languages, distinct from Kipchak languages to which Volga–Ural Tatar belongs.

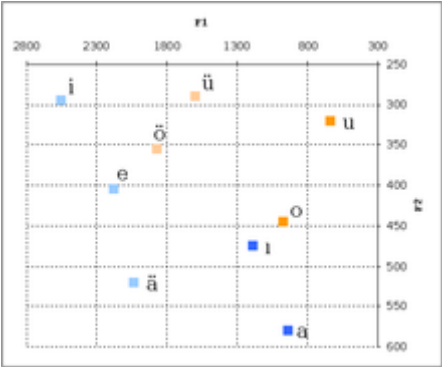
Phonology

Vowels

There exist several interpretations of the Tatar vowel phonemic inventory. In total Tatar has nine or ten native vowels, and three or four loaned vowels (mainly in Russian loanwords).^{[16][17]}

According to Baskakov (1988) Tatar has only two vowel heights, high and low. There are two low vowels, front and back, while there are eight high vowels: front and back, round (R+) and unround (R-), normal and short (or reduced).^[16]

		Front		Back	
		R-	R+	R-	R+
High	Normal	i	ü	ĩ	u
	Short	e	ö	ě	o
Low		ä		a	



Tatar vowel formants F1 and F2

Poppe (1963) proposed a similar yet slightly different scheme with a third, higher mid, height, and with nine vowels.^[16]

		Front		Back	
		R-	R+	R-	R+
High		i	ü		u
Higher Mid		e	ö	ĩ	o
Low		ä		a	

According to Makhmutova (1969) Tatar has three vowel heights: high, mid and low, and four tongue positions: front, front-central, front-back and back.^[16]

	Front		Central				Back	
			Front		Back			
	R-	R+	R-	R+	R-	R+	R-	R+
High	i	ü					ĩ	u
Mid			e	ö	ě	o		
Low	ä						a	

The mid back unrounded vowel "ě is usually transcribed as ɨ, though it differs from the corresponding Turkish vowel.

The tenth vowel *i* is realized as the diphthong *ëy* (IPA: [ɯɪ]), which only occurs word-finally, but it has been argued to be an independent phoneme.^{[16][17]}

Phonetically, the native vowels are approximately thus (with the Cyrillic letters and the usual Latin romanization in angle brackets):

	Front		Back	
	R-	R+	R-	R+
High	и ⟨i⟩ [ɪ]	ү ⟨ü⟩ [y~ʉ]	ый ⟨iy⟩ [ɯɪ]	y ⟨u⟩ [u]
Mid	э, е ⟨e⟩ [ě~ǝ]	ө ⟨ö⟩ [ǝ~ǝ]	ы ⟨ı⟩ [ʏ~ʌ]	о ⟨o⟩ [õ]
Low	ә ⟨ä⟩ [æ~a]		а ⟨a⟩ [ɑ]	

In polysyllabic words, the front-back distinction is lost in reduced vowels: all become mid-central.^[16] The mid reduced vowels in an unstressed position are frequently elided, as in *кеше* *keşe* [kě'ʃě] > [kʃě] 'person', or *кышы* *qıʃı* [qǎ'ʃǎ] > [qʃǎ] '(his) winter'.^[17] Low back /ɑ/ is rounded [ɒ] in the first syllable and after [ɒ], but not in the last, as in *бала* *bala* [bɒ'la] 'child', *балаларға* *balalarğa* [bɒlɒlɒr'ʁɑ] 'to children'.^[17] In Russian loans there are also [ɛ̣], [ɛ̤], [ɔ̣], and [ạ̈], written the same as the native vowels: **ы**, **е/э**, **о**, **а** respectively.^[17]

Historical shifts

Historically, the Old Turkic mid vowels have raised from mid to high, whereas the Old Turkic high vowels have become the Tatar reduced mid series. (The same shifts have also happened in Bashkir.)^[18]

Vowel	Old Turkic	Turkish	Kazakh	Tatar	Bashkir	Gloss
*e	*et	et	et	it	it	'meat'
*ö	*söz	söz	söz	süz	hüz [hyθ]	'word'
*o	*sol	sol	sol	sul	hul	'left'
*i	*it	it	it	et	et	'dog'
*ı	*qız	kız	qız	qěz [qǎz]	qéz [qǎθ]	'girl'
*u	*qum	kum	qum	qom	qom	'sand'
*ü	*kül	kül	kül	köl	köl	'ash'

Consonants

The consonants of Tatar^[17]

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Labio- velar</u>	<u>Dental</u>	<u>Post- alveolar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Uvular</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Nasals</u>		м ⟨m⟩ /m/		н ⟨n⟩ /n/			ң ⟨ñ⟩ /ŋ/		
<u>Plosives</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>	п ⟨p⟩ /p/		т ⟨t⟩ /t/			к ⟨k⟩ /k/	қ ⟨q⟩ /q/†	э/ь ⟨'⟩ /ʔ/†
	<u>Voiced</u>	б ⟨b⟩ /b/		д ⟨d⟩ /d/			г ⟨g⟩ /g/		
<u>Affricates</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>			ц ⟨ts⟩ /ts/†		ч ⟨ç⟩ /tʃ/†			
	<u>Voiced</u>					ж ⟨c⟩ /dʒ/†			
<u>Fricatives</u>	<u>Voiceless</u>	ф ⟨f⟩ /f/†		с ⟨s⟩ /s/	ш ⟨ʃ⟩ /ʃ/	ч ⟨ç⟩ /ç/		х ⟨x⟩ /x/	һ ⟨h⟩ /h/†
	<u>Voiced</u>	в ⟨v⟩ /v/†		з ⟨z⟩ /z/	ж ⟨j⟩ /ʒ/†	ж ⟨c⟩ /ʒ/		гъ ⟨ğ⟩ /ɣ/†	
<u>Trill</u>				р ⟨r⟩ /r/					
<u>Approximants</u>			у/ү/в ⟨w⟩ /w/	л ⟨l⟩ /l/		й ⟨y⟩ /j/			

Notes

† The phonemes /v/, /ts/, /tʃ/, /ʒ/, /h/, /ʔ/ are only found in loanwords. /f/ occurs more commonly in loanwords, but is also found in native words, e.g. *yafraq* 'leaf'.^[17] /v/, /ts/, /tʃ/, /ʒ/ may be substituted with the corresponding native consonants /w/, /s/, /ç/, /ʒ/ by some Tatars.

† /dʒ/ and /tʃ/ are the dialectal Western (Mişär) pronunciations of ж ⟨c⟩ /ʒ/ and ч ⟨ç⟩ /ç/, the latter are in the literary standard and in the Central (Kazan) dialect. /ts/ is the variant of ч ⟨ç⟩ /ç/ as pronounced in the Eastern (Siberian) dialects and some Western (Mişär) dialects. Both /tʃ/ and /ts/ are also used in Russian loanwords (the latter written ц).

† /q/ and /ɣ/ are usually considered allophones of /k/ and /g/ in the environment of back vowels, so they never written in the Tatar Cyrillic orthography in native words, and only rarely in loanwords with қъ and гъ. However, /q/ and /ɣ/ also appear before front /æ/ in Perso-Arabic loanwords which may indicate the phonemic status of these uvular consonants.

Palatalization

Tatar consonants usually undergo slight palatalization before front vowels. However, this allophony is not significant and does not constitute a phonemic status. This differs from Russian where palatalized consonants are not allophones but phonemes on their own. There are a number of Russian loanwords which have a palatalized consonants in Russian and thus written the same in Tatar (often with the "soft sign" ъ). The Tatar standard pronunciation also requires palatalization in such loanwords, however, some Tatar may pronounce them non-palatalized.

Syllables

In native words there are six types of syllables (Consonant, **V**owel, Sonorant):

- V (ı-lı, **u**-ra, **ö**-rä)
- VC (**at**-law, **el**-geç, **ir**-kä)
- CV (**qa**-la, **ki**-ä, **su**-la)
- CVC (**bar**-sa, **sız**-law, **köç**-le, **qoş**-çıq)
- VSC (**ant**-lar, **äyt**-te, **ilt**-kän)
- CVSC (**tört**-te, **qart**-lar, **qayt**-qan)

Loanwords allow other types: CSV (**gra**-mota), CSVC (käs-**trül**), etc.

Prosody

Stress is usually on the final syllable. However, some suffixes cannot be stressed, so the stress shifts to the syllable before that suffix, even if the stressed syllable is the third or fourth from the end. A number of Tatar words and grammatical forms have the natural stress on the first syllable. Loanwords, mainly from Russian, usually preserve their original stress (unless the original stress is on the last syllable, in such a case the stress in Tatar shifts to suffixes as usual, e.g. *sovét* > *sovetlár* > *sovetlarǵá*).

Phonetic alterations

Tatar phonotactics dictate many pronunciation changes which are not reflected in the orthography.

- Unrounded vowels *ı* and *e* become rounded after *o* or *ö*:

коры/*qorı* > [qoro]
борын/*borın* > [boron]
көзге/*közge* > [közgö]
соры/*sorı* > [soro]

- Nasals are assimilated to the following stops:

унбер/*unber* > [umber]
менгеч/*mengeç* > [meñgeç]

- Stops are assimilated to the preceding nasals (this is reflected in writing):

урманнар/*urmannar* (< *urman* + *lar*)
комнар/*komnar* (< *kom* + *lar*)

- Voicing may also undergo assimilation:

күзсез/*küzsez* > [küssez]

- Unstressed vowels may be syncopated or reduced:

урыны/*urını* > [urnı]
килене/*kilene* > [kilne]

- Vowels may also be elided:

кара урман/*qara urman* > [qarurman]
 килә иде/*kilä ide* > [kiläyde]
 туры урам/*turı uram* > [tururam]
 була алмын/*bula almım* > [bulalmım]

- In consonant clusters longer than two phones, **ı** or **e** (whichever is dictated by vowel harmony) is inserted into speech as an epenthetic vowel.

банк/*bank* > [bañqı]

- Final consonant clusters are simplified:

артист/*artist* > [artis]

- Final devoicing is also frequent:

табиб/*tabib* > [tabip]

Grammar

Like other Turkic languages, Tatar is an agglutinative language.

Grammatical case:

- Nominative -
- Accusative: -ны/-не, -н
- Possessive: -ның/-нең
- Dative: -га/-гә, -ка/-кә, -а/-ә, -на/-нә
- Locative: -да/-дә, -та/-тә, -нда/-ндә
- Ablative: -дан/-дән, -тан/-тән, -нан/-нән, -ннан/-ннән

Plural:

- Nominative: -лар/-ләр, -нар/-нәр
- Accusative: -ларны
- Possessive: -ларның
- Dative: -ларга
- Locative: -ларда
- Ablative: -лардан

Plural

- After vowels, consonants, hard: -lar (bala-lar, abı-lar, kitap-lar, qaz-lar, malay-lar, qar-lar, ağaç-lar)
- After vowels, consonants, soft: -lär (äni-lär, sölge-lär, дәftär-lär, kibet-lär, süz-lär, bäbkä-lär, mäktäp-lär, xäref-lär)
- After nasals, hard: -nar (uram-nar, urman-nar, tolım-nar, moñ-nar, tañ-nar, şalqan-nar)

- After nasals, soft: -när (ülän-när, keläm-när, çräм-när, iñ-när, ciñ-när, isem-när)

Declension of pronouns

Personal pronouns

Case	Singular			Plural		
Nominative	мин <i>min</i>	син <i>sin</i>	ул <i>ul</i>	без <i>bez</i>	сез <i>sez</i>	алар <i>alar</i>
Genitive	минем <i>minem</i>	синең <i>sineñ</i>	аның <i>anıñ</i>	безнең <i>bezneñ</i>	сезнең <i>sezneñ</i>	аларның <i>alarnıñ</i>
Dative	миңа <i>miña</i>	сиңа <i>siña</i>	аңа <i>aña</i>	безгә <i>bezgä</i>	сезгә <i>sezgä</i>	аларга <i>alarğa</i>
Accusative	мине <i>mine</i>	сине <i>sine</i>	аны <i>anı</i>	безне <i>bezne</i>	сезне <i>sezne</i>	аларны <i>alarnı</i>
Locative	миндә <i>mindä</i>	синдә <i>sindä</i>	анда <i>anda</i>	бездә <i>bezdä</i>	сездә <i>sezdä</i>	аларда <i>alarda</i>
Ablative	миннән <i>minnän</i>	синнән <i>sinnän</i>	аннан <i>annan</i>	бездән <i>bezdän</i>	сездән <i>sezdän</i>	алардан <i>alardan</i>

Demonstrative pronouns

Case	Singular		Plural	
Case	"This"	"That"	"These"	"Those"
Nominative	бу <i>bu</i>	шул <i>şul</i>	болар <i>bolar</i>	шулар <i>şular</i>
Genitive	моның <i>moniñ</i>	шуның <i>şuniñ</i>	боларның <i>bolarnıñ</i>	шуларның <i>şularnıñ</i>
Dative	моңа <i>moña</i>	шуңа <i>şuña</i>	боларга <i>bolarğa</i>	шуларга <i>şularğa</i>
Accusative	моны <i>moni</i>	шуны <i>şuni</i>	боларны <i>bolarnı</i>	шуларны <i>şularnı</i>
Locative	монда <i>monda</i>	шунда <i>şunda</i>	боларда <i>bolarda</i>	шуларда <i>şularda</i>
Ablative	моннан <i>monnan</i>	шуннан <i>şunnan</i>	болардан <i>bolardan</i>	шулардан <i>şulardan</i>

Interrogative pronouns

Case	Who?	What?
Nominative	кем <i>kem</i>	нәрсә <i>närsä</i>
Genitive	кемнең <i>kemneñ</i>	нәрсәнең <i>närsäneñ</i>
Dative	кемгә <i>kemgä</i>	нәрсәгә <i>närsägä</i>
Accusative	кемне <i>kemne</i>	нәрсәне <i>närsäne</i>
Locative	кемдә <i>kemdä</i>	нәрсәдә <i>närsädä</i>
Ablative	кемнән <i>kemnän</i>	нәрсәдән <i>närsädän</i>

[19]

Writing system

During its history, Tatar has been written in Arabic, Latin and Cyrillic scripts.

Before 1928, Tatar was mostly written with in Arabic script (Иске имля/*İske imlâ*, "Old orthography", to 1920; Яңа имля/*Yaña imlâ*, "New orthography", 1920–1928).

During the 19th century Russian Christian missionary Nikolay Ilminsky devised the first Cyrillic alphabet for Tatar. This alphabet is still used by Christian Tatars (Kryashens).

In the Soviet Union after 1928, Tatar was written with a Latin alphabet called Jaŋalif.

In 1939, in Tatarstan and all other parts of the Soviet Union, a Cyrillic script was adopted and is still used to write Tatar. It is also used in Kazakhstan.

The Republic of Tatarstan passed a law in 1999 that came into force in 2001 establishing an official Tatar Latin alphabet. A Russian federal law overrode it in 2002, making Cyrillic the sole official script in Tatarstan since. In 2004, an attempt to introduce a Latin-based alphabet for Tatar was further abandoned when the Constitutional Court ruled that the federal law of 15 November 2002 mandating the use of Cyrillic for the state languages of the republics of the Russian Federation^[20] does not contradict the Russian constitution.^[21] In accordance with this Constitutional Court ruling, on 28 December 2004, the Tatar Supreme Court overturned the Tatarstani law that made the Latin alphabet official.^[22]

In 2012 the Tatarstan government adopted a new Latin alphabet but with the limited usage (mostly for Romanization).

■ Tatar Perso-Arabic alphabet (before 1928):

چ	ج	ث	ت	پ	ب	ا	آ
س	ث	ز	ر	ذ	د	خ	ح
ف	غ	ع	ظ	ط	ض	ص	ش
ه	ن	م	ل	نک	گ	ک	ق
			ئ	ی	ق	و	و

■ Tatar Old Latin (Jaŋalif) alphabet (1928 to 1940), including a digraph in the last position:

A a	B b	C c	Ç ç	D d	E e	Ə ə	F f
G g	Ŋ ŋ	H h	I i	J j	K k	L l	M m

A a	B b	C c	Ç ç	D d
E e	Ə ə	F f	G g	Ŋ ŋ
H h	I i	J j	K k	L l
M m	N n	Ŋ ŋ	O o	Ө ө
P p	Q q	R r	S s	Ş ş
Y y	T t	U u	V v	X x
Z z	Ƶ ƶ	Ь ь	Ɓ Ƀ	—

Tatar Latin (Jaŋalif) and Arabic scripts, 1927



Some guides in Kazan are in Latin script, especially in fashion boutiques

N n	Ŋ ŋ	O o	Ө ө	P p	Q q	R r	S s
Ş ş	T t	U u	V v	X x	Y y	Z z	
Ь ь		Б б	Ј ј				

- Tatar Old Cyrillic alphabet (by Nikolay Ilminsky, 1861; the letters in parenthesis are not used in modern publications):

А а	Ӓ ӓ	Б б	В в	Г г	Д д	Е е	Ӗ ӗ
Ж ж	З з	И и	(І і)	Й й	К к	Л л	М м
Н н	Ӧ ӧ	О о	Ӗ ӗ	П п	Р р	С с	Т т
У у	Ӝ ӝ	Ф ф	Х х	Ц ц	Ч ч	Ш ш	Щ щ
Ъ ъ	Ы ы	Ь ь	(Ѣ ѣ)	Э э	Ю ю	Я я	(Ө ө)

- Tatar Cyrillic alphabet (1939; the letter order adopted in 1997):

А а	Ә ә	Б б	В в	Г г	Д д	Е е	Ё ё
Ж ж	Ӗ ӗ	З з	И и	Й й	К к	Л л	М м
Н н	Ӧ ӧ	О о	Ө ө	П п	Р р	С с	Т т
У у	Ӝ ӝ	Ф ф	Х х	Һ һ	Ц ц	Ч ч	Ш ш
Щ щ	Ъ ъ	Ы ы	Ь ь	Э э	Ю ю	Я я	

- 1999 Tatar Latin alphabet, made official by a law adopted by Tatarstani authorities but annulled by the Tatar Supreme Court in 2004:^[22]

A a	Ә ә	B b	C c	Ç ç	D d	E e	F f
G g	Ğ ğ	H h	I ı	İ i	J j	K k	Q q
L l	M m	N n	Ŋ ŋ	O o	Ө ө	P p	R r
S s	Ş ş	T t	U u	Ü ü	V v	W w	X x
Y y	Z z						

- 2012 Tatar Latin alphabet

A a	Ӓ ӓ	B b	C c	Ç ç	D d	E e	F f
G g	Ğ ğ	H h	I ı	İ i	J j	K k	Q q
L l	M m	N n	Ñ ñ	O o	Ӗ ӗ	P p	R r
S s	Ş ş	T t	U u	Ü ü	V v	W w	X x
Y y	Z z						



Tatar sign on a madrasah in Nizhny Novgorod, written in both Arabic and Cyrillic Tatar scripts

History

Tatar's ancestors are the extinct Bulgar and Kipchak languages.

The literary Tatar language is based on the Middle Tatar dialect and on the Old Tatar language (*İske Tatar Tele*). Both are members of the Volga-Ural subgroup of the Kipchak group of Turkic languages, although they also partly derive from the ancient Volga Bulgar language.

Most of the Uralic languages in the Volga River area have strongly influenced the Tatar language,^[23] as have the Arabic, Persian and Russian languages.^[24]

Crimean Tatar, although similar by name, belongs to another subgroup of the Kipchak languages, usually called Pontic, Cuman or Polovtsian. Unlike Kazan Tatar, Crimean Tatar is heavily influenced by Turkish.

Examples

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 1:

Cyrillic

Барлык кешеләр дә азат һәм үз абруйлары һәм хокуклары ягыннан тиң булып туалар. Аларга акыл һәм вөҗдан бирелгән һәм бер-берсенә карата туганнарча мөнәсәбәттә булырга тиешләр.

Romanization

Barlıq keşelär dä azat häm üz abruyları häm xoquqları yağınnan tiñ bulıp tualar. Alarğa aql häm wöcdan birelgän häm ber-bersenä qarata tuğannarça mönasäbättä bulırğa tieşlär

See also

- Corpus of Written Tatar
- Tatar alphabet
- Tatar name
- Tatars

Notes

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External links

- (in Russian) [Atlas of Tatar dialects \(http://atlas.antat.ru/\)](http://atlas.antat.ru/)
 - [Tatar<>Turkish dictionary \(http://pauctle.com/tttr\)](http://pauctle.com/tttr)
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